

REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action of July 13, 2004 is acknowledged. Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 5, 7 – 21, 25, and 27 – 42 are allowable. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1 and 22 are amended herein. The amendments are made to correct typographical and formal errors.

Claims 1 – 42 are pending in this application.

Double Patenting

Claims 1 – 4, 6, 22 – 24, 26, and 44 stand rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patent No. 6,313,370. Applicants submit herewith a duly executed Terminal Disclaimer over U.S. Patent No. 6,313,370 thereby overcoming this rejection. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the double patenting rejection are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5, 7 – 21, 25, and 27 – 43 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. In light of the Terminal Disclaimer filed herewith, this objection has been rendered moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are requested.

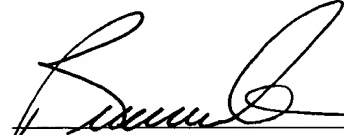
Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Examiner Ho is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-3013. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 50-3013.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Enclosures

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